



**CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
500 Mill Road
Absecon, New Jersey 08201**

**Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk**

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**DECEMBER 18, 2014
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Chris Seher at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

INVOCATION – Lisa Whitaker, Missionary, Youth with a Mission

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vizthum, Camp, Horton, Cain, Phillips, Ring, Seher

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Armstrong, City Solicitor, Tim Maguire; Jessica Thompson; Carie Crone

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW – Council Pro Tem Vizthum
NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

REPORTS

Councilwoman Cain – Public Works – leaf collection is still going on until the end of the year and they have lost some time with all the rain we've had. They are also in the parks doing cleanup. Christmas tree collection will be on yard waste day in Jan. and Feb. by the ACUA. Public Works is looking into getting a new sign down the road maybe. 2013 road program was discussed and the punch list will be completed. Also the 2014 road program was discussed that will start in 2015. We hope to have the 2015 program start in 2015. Tennis court work needs warmer weather to be completed, so they are locked up at this time. The old Girl Scout lodge demolition is on hold since asbestos has been found. Wished everyone a Happy Holiday a safe New Years.

Councilman Vizthum – Public Safety - no meeting since last time. Told residents to be extra safe this time of the year when breakins happen. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilman Phillips – Parks & Playgrounds – had no meeting but spoke about Ord. 25 dealing with funds for the wagon wheel work and Res. #181.

Councilman Camp – Finance – met tonight and they reviewed the RFP's for the professionals and selections will be announced at the Reorganization Meeting on Jan. 5th. They also discussed foreclosure properties. Next meeting 1/16 at 6:00 p.m. He wished everyone a happy holiday.

Councilman Ring – Community Affairs – announced Santa route for this weekend and other upcoming events.

Councilwoman Horton – Economic Development – next meeting will be after the Re-organization meeting and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mayor – wished everyone a happy holiday. He announced his selection of police chief as Lt. DeRitis and is asking Council to pass that resolution tonight. It's modeled after the current chief's contract except it would be a 5 year term, with a provision of a salary raise of \$114,000 this year, with a \$4,000 a year raise bringing it to a final salary of \$130,000, which is the present chief's salary.

Kim – is pleased with this decision and everyone agreed.

Lt. DeRitis – thanked Chief Risley, who was chief for 3 years and made it a great department and thanked him for helping his career. He also thanked those who he was up against, who are also his friends and for how the whole process went. He looks forward to working with everyone.

Jessica – explained Res. #182, #183, #184, #185, #186, #187,

Mayor – explained #189 as the COAH appointment for the City. It's the person who will be handling the details of the affordable housing issues for the city. It's a limited role but the City needs to have a representative.

Jessica – continued with #190 and #191 will be held until a later date. A closed session will be needed for contract negotiations for the GWU.

MONTHLY REPORTS - Carie

Construction - \$2,949

Clerk - \$14,144.25

Court - \$10,180.12

Tax Collection - \$3,648,746.95

Chris – announced the Mill Road construction work to begin on 1/5 now and the closing of that road from California Avenue down to Westcoat for about a month and when that is done it will be closed from the White Horse Pike down to Westcoat. He attended the concert at the school that was put on for the senior citizens and it was very good.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor. No public comment

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ADOPTION

25 Bond Ordinance providing for various improvements to Pitney Park in and by the City of Absecon, appropriating \$66,500 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$63,175 bonds or notes of the City to finance part of the cost therefor.

Motion for second reading – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

Motion to open to public for comment – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Vizthum

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

RESOLUTIONS OUT OF CONSENT

181 Urging State Lawmakers to oppose amending State constitution to permit casino gambling in New Jersey in sites other than Atlantic City.

Frank – explained some of the comments listed in the resolution

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, abstain

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under item, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be discussed separately.

182 Authorizing the transfer of appropriations in the 2014 local municipal budget per N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58

183 Canceling outstanding checks in the Current Fund Account of the City of Absecon.

184 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to cancel Grant Receivables and Appropriations not needed.

185 Authorizing the release of a maintenance guarantee posted by T-Mobile Northeast, LLC.

- 186** Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Inter-local Agreement with Atlantic County Utilities Authority for solid waste, bulky waste, recycling, roll-off pull services and yard waste collection.
- 187** Authorizing the City of Absecon to advertise for bids for Vehicle Maintenance Services for the City's vehicles.
- 188** Consenting to the appointment of Lieutenant John DeRitis as Chief of the City of Absecon Police Department and authorizing the Mayor to sign an employment contract between the City of Absecon and John DeRitis for the same.
- 189** Appointing a Municipal Housing Liaison, namely Jessica Snyder.
- 190** Authorizing the Chief of Police to advertise for the positions of two full time Patrol Officers.
- 191** Appointing part time substitute Crossing Guards. – **PULLED.**

Resolutions **#182 through #190** will be included in the consent agenda.

Motion to approve consent agenda – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,455,240.80

Motion to approve – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes, abstain on A0005; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, abstain on 9637, 0189, 0046, G0041, H0019, L0085 and Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 12/4/14

Sandy – wanted the discussion of the 911 site at last meeting clarified, so discussion was then held

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, abstain; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, abstain

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close public – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Phillips

All were in favor.

CLOSED SESSION - #192-2014

Attorney Maguire – stated the reason as discussion of contract negotiations with the GWU contract.

Action will be taken at the end of that discussion. It's approximately 8:00 p.m.

Councilman Phillips excused himself from these discussions.

Motion to enter closed session – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Tim – it's now 8:20 and we were given an outline of the contract, which will be vote on now.

193 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Absecon and the Government Workers Union for the year 1/1/2012 through 12/31/2014

Motion to approve – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Camp

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

194 - Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Absecon and the Government Workers Union for the year 1/1/2015 through 12/31/2017

Motion to approve – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Camp

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting – Councilman Ring – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

Respectfully,

Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: _____